

**INFORMATION REPORT**

COUNTRY East Germany  
 SUBJECT Production Difficulties in the Coal Industry

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1. Because of the reassignment of several former SAG enterprises to the East German coal industry, one million tons of briquettes are to be produced in excess of the 1952 production target. However, the State Secretariat for Coal believes that the program for the additional production of briquettes will be only 70 percent fulfilled because several coal-producing installations will have to wait until as late as March 1953 for the delivery of boilers and turbines from the Goerlitz (O 52/B 00) Machine Factory. The installations concerned include the Jonny Scheer mine at Welzow (N 52/A 44), the Glueckauf Mine at Welzow and the Haselbach Mine at Borna (N 52/K 39). These three mines have been falling behind the production quota by a daily amount of 750 tons, 500 tons and 250 tons respectively since 1 May 1952. Another factor impairing the productivity of the Haselbach Mine is the defective drying plant in which 38 fires have occurred since 1 May 1952.
2. The coal industry is suffering from a shortage of rails, especially rails of S-49 type which are also used by the Deutsche Reichsbahn. In an effort to keep the coal-producing installations operating, the connecting track between the coal districts of Borna and Meuselwitz (O 52/K 13) was dismantled. This measure, however, slowed down supplies to the Meuselwitz briquette factories which were to receive 700,000 tons of brown coal from Borna in 1952. The installations were ordered to reduce their trackage for coal dredgers by 50 percent. In 1953, the coal-producing enterprises of the VVB Borna will be supplied with a maximum quota of only 500 tons of rails, which will be sufficient for 5 km of track, or 10 percent of the actual requirements.

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